

**CHARACTERISTICS OF A GREAT TEACHER REFLECTED IN *THE
MIRACLE WORKER* MOVIE: READER'S RESPONSE THEORY**



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I testify that there is no plagiarism of the previous literary work which is written by others in this research paper entitled "**CHARACTERISTICS OF A GREAT TEACHER REFLECTED IN *THE MIRACLE WORKER* MOVIE: READER'S RESPONSE THEORY**". Everything which is written in this research paper related to others works are written in manuscript and mentioned in the bibliography. If then, this pronouncement proven that there are untrue statement, I will hold fully responsible.

Surakarta, March 2018

The Researcher



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CHARACTERISTICS OF A GREAT TEACHER REFLECTED IN *THE MIRACLE WORKER* MOVIE: READER'S RESPONSE THEORY

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis komentar penonton mengenai isu *great teacher* yang terdapat dalam film *The Miracle Worker* (1962) karya William Gibson. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian kualitatif. Untuk menganalisis komentar penonton, peneliti menggunakan teori *reader's response* dari Richard's Beach. Sumber data utama adalah komentar penonton tentang film *The Miracle Worker* yang terdapat pada *IMDb (Internet Movie Database) website*. Sedangkan, sumber data kedua didapatkan dari data lain seperti jurnal dan artikel yang terkait data utama. Hasil dari penelitian ini memberikan beberapa kesimpulan. Pertama, ada empat belas komentar tentang *great teacher* yang dikelompokkan menjadi sepuluh karakteristik dari penonton, yaitu idealis, tulus, kompeten, berbakat, cemerlang, berpendidikan, berharga, memiliki pikiran yang masuk akal, terampil, dan member dorongan. Kedua, terdapat delapan ilustrasi *great teacher* yang dijelaskan melalui adegan-adegan yang ada pada film *The Miracle Worker*, yaitu menunjukkan profesionalisme, mengajarkan hasil tindakan, memberikan contoh, memberikan dukungan yang besar, memberi perhatian lebih, menyebarkan aura positif, berbagi pengetahuan, memiliki bakat. Ketiga, alasan dari penonton mengambil isu *great teacher* adalah karena mereka merasa prihatin atas banyaknya orang yang menderita penyakit ensefalitis.

Kata Kunci: *great teacher*, komentar penonton, penyakit ensefalitis, *The Miracle Worker*

Abstract

This study aims to analyze audience comments on the *great teacher* issues contained in William Gibson's *The Miracle Worker* (1962). This research is a qualitative research. To analyze audience comments, researchers used reader's response theory from Richard's Beach. The main data source is audience comments about *The Miracle Worker* movie on *IMDb (Internet Movie Database) website*. Meanwhile, the second data source obtained from other data such as journals and articles related to the main data. The results of this research provide some results. First, there are fourteen comments about the great teacher grouped into ten characteristics of the audience; they are idealistic, upstanding, competent, talented, brilliant, educated, precious, sensible, skillful, and encouraging. Secondly, there are eight great teacher illustrations that are explained through the scenes in *The Miracle Worker*, they are showing professionalism, teaching the result of action, giving example, giving great support, giving attention more, spreading the positivity, sharing knowledge, having passion. Third, the reason of the audience to take the issue of great teachers is because they are concerned about the number of people suffering from encephalitis disease.

Keywords: great teacher, reader's response, encephalitis, *The Miracle Worker*

1. INTRODUCTION

This research is about characteristics of a great teacher in *The Miracle Worker* movie by William Gibson. Some researchers also used *The Miracle Worker* movie as their primary source and used the different theory to analyze the movie. There are Abby Butzer, Jessie Darrell Jarbadan, Indra Yuniar Restariny and Warda Putri Rochmawati. The first, Abby Butzer (2016) is from Minnesota State University. He conducted a research entitled *A Dramaturgical Analysis of The Miracle Worker*. He states that there were six chapters on the play's medical and pedagogical history, named; the psychology and psychology of language acquisition as it pertains to sight and/or hearing, the 19th century pathology and treatment options for the disease of the eye that troubled Annie Sullivan for most of her life and the pathology and prognosis for tuberculosis of the hip, the infection that killed Sullivan's brother. He used a dramaturgical theory. The second, Jessie Darrell Jarbadan comes from Rhode Island College. Jarbadan (2016) conducted the research as *The Miracle Worker: The Use of Historical Research in Theatrical Design*. Jarbadan describes the research by using the acting of the actors and the actress.

The third, Indra Yuniar Restariny (2015) comes from Muhammadiyah University of Jember. Her research entitled *Analysis of Interpersonal Communication in The Miracle Worker Film*. she stated that the most effective interpersonal communication that occurs between teachers and students than parents and children, resulting in two-way communication or circular. And the last is from Warda Putri Rochmawati (2016) that comes from Islamic University Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. With her research *Analysis of The Values of Character Education In The Miracle Worker Film* she onducted that there is a character value in the movie "*The Miracle Worker*" that is the value of confidence, hard work, sincerity, appreciate and patient. The values are developed so that humans can live and practice the values of character education for his personality. The second is the formation of the value of character education in the film found three methods of giving exemplary and appreciation, providing trust and mentoring, as well as learning from the experience of both

success and failures. The third is the implication of the use of film media "*The Miracle Worker*" in the formation of character in Islamic religious teaching is to build self confidence, self spiritualization and self actualization.

Most of the literature reviews above are about the acting of the actors and actress, so the researcher will take chance and write to analyze about the characteristics of a great teacher. Through this research paper, the researcher wants to explain more about characteristics and illustration about a great teacher in *The Miracle Worker* movie.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This study is a descriptive qualitative research that applies the method of asking a research question, selection of reviewers, collecting data, analyzing data, and reporting the result. The objects of the study are formal object and material object. Formal object is the reader response to *The Miracle Worker* movie (1962) by William Gibson from Internet Movie Database (IMDb). While the materials object is *The Miracle Worker* movie. The researcher uses reader's response theory to consider the responses of this novel. In analyzing data, the researcher applies purposive sampling technique. Until December 2017, *The Miracle Worker* movie has 90 reviewers. Data sources are derived from two kinds of data, primary data source and secondary data source. Primary data source is the reviewer of *The Miracle Worker* movie (1962) by William Gibson from IMDb website. Secondary data sources are collected from books, journals, articles, and other sources that support the analysis. For the technique of data analysis, the researcher uses qualitative data analysis by Surakhmad (1994) such as technique of searching, collecting, classifying, analyzing the data, interpreting them and finally drawing the conclusion.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

There are many perspectives and also illustrations about great teacher in this movie. The following description will explain about finding of this research.

3.1 Characteristics of A Great Teacher Based on Reviewers' Perspective

3.1.1 Moral

3.1.1.1 Idealistic

It means that teachers want to be looked perfect for their students. So they want the students do not look the weakness of them.

3.1.1.2 Upstanding

Teachers are upstanding person. Anne as the teacher of Helen is always sincere and patient to handle and teach her. Anne sincerely teaches Helen although she does not recognize Helen before.

3.1.2 Mental

3.1.2.1 Competent

It means that teacher should always ready to teach whatever material she will explain. Teacher should have a strong desire to make students understand not only about the material but also about life. Competent is had by everyone and of course all teachers have this nature. Teachers have competent to handle their students. Like this movie, Anne has competent to guide Helen to be an independent person.

3.1.2.2 Talented

Talent means the ability of the teacher, Anne to teach Helen. Teacher teaches the concept of named and so on which is hard to do because Anne teaches a handicapped child like Helen. So it means that teacher must have talent to teach their students. A talented person means that someone has a passion. Teachers have a passion to guide their student to be a smart and polite to the others. In this movie, based on the review, Anne has a talent to handle her student, Helen who is a handicapped people.

3.1.2.3 Brilliant

Teachers should be struggling to their students in order to their students can know the ability that is had by them. So teacher works not only to teach material but also to make student know about what their passion are. People in this world have their own passion and teachers are not exception. Teachers have good mentality. So, they are always confident to face and explain in front of their students.

3.1.2.4 Educated

Educated people mean that someone has many experiences in her or his life so they can share with their student. So that students can take many advantages and lesson learned to imitate in their life. So, it means that all people can be an educated person

3.1.2.5 Precious

Someone who is precious is someone that never looks at the gender, religion, or even the weakness of others. They just want to be useful to other, like Anne Sullivan to Helen. She is always sincere to teach Helen.

3.1.2.6 Sensible

Teacher should be wise because teacher is followed by their students.

3.1.2.7 Skillful

Teacher have to master the methodology or material before meet with students in order to make sure that student can really understand about what teachers have explained. So that teacher should have their own method.

3.1.3 Social

3.1.3.1 Encouraging

Encouraging means that someone has a characteristic to give a support to the others. This movie based on the review proves

that teachers have to always give support to the student. Anne always supports Helen in order to she can be a nice girl as normal like others.

3.2 The Illustration of *Great Teacher* in The Movie

There are eight illustrations in *The Miracle Worker* movie, they are:

3.2.1 Showing Professionalism

Teacher wants to be looked as a perfect person in front of their students. So, it means that if teacher has weakness, they still can handle the problem when they are in front of their students. From the response above means that Anne as teacher hides the weakness she has. So, she has to be looked she can handle Helen as her student who is a handicapped girl. And the response tells that Helen is an unusual pupil for Anne. For the explanation, Helen is a blind and deaf-mute. Anne realized that the solution of her student comes from herself. She believes that she can handle the handicapped student by the method she gives. So it is really a miracle like the response tells. Because in the end of the story, Anne can prove that she can teach a handicapped person like Helen.

3.2.2 Teaching The Result of Action

Actually all people is able to teach each other. But just people who are talented that can teach. They are called teacher. Anne is Helen's teacher. With her talent, she can teach Helen who is a handicapped girl. Only people who has been talented that can teach Helen.

3.2.3 Giving Example

Actually all people is able to teach each other. Just people who are talented that can teach, they are called teacher. Anne is Helen's teacher. With her talent, she can teach Helen who is a handicapped girl. Only people who has been talented that can teach Helen.

3.2.4 Giving Great Support

A support by Anne to Helen is great. She can prove that a handicapped people can also open mind that become a handicapped is

not totally wrong. Anne who has a story like Helen in the past proves that she can handle Helen and even make Helen become a success person.

3.2.5 Giving Attention More

In this world, everybody needs someone that work honestly. The movie actually tells about Helen, a handicapped child that cannot do anything without help from others. Here Anne Sullivan as her teacher like becomes a hero for her because Anne always tries to make Helen become an independent child. Anne before did not recognize Helen, and never meet before but she honestly helped Helen to communicate to other. Even though it is her difficult work, but Anne always keep her struggle to make Helen know the world.

3.2.6 Spreading The Positivity

The reviewer said that Anne has great struggle to handle a handicapped girl like Helen. Anne knows that actually Helen is a smart girl but because she is disabled she act like a crazy child who is usually rough to Anne. Anne does not give up. She always tries to make Helen know the world.

3.2.7 Sharing Knowledge

Teacher should be educated people because they need to share their knowledge and experiences with their students. Anne could see hope in Helen. She considers that Helen has a great talent actually. But Helen is too lazy to imitate what Anne's finger do. The media that can help Anne to teach Helen is just her finger.

3.2.8 Having Passion

Teacher is very important in our life. They bring us to the smarter than before. They care to us in order to they want us to be someone that will be success in our life. Teachers want us to be the smarter than them. They are so sincere. Like the scenes of the movie which shows that Anne Sullivan is always sincere to teach Helen even though

Helen is always rough to her. Anne always try to make Helen can communicate to other people.

3.3 Reason of Reviewers Addressing A *Great Teacher*

The reviewers are influenced by the context when they concern about encephalitis especially those that are not handled properly. So that people who is suffering from encephalitis cannot live independently. And if there are people who suffer encephalitis but they can live independently, it means the parent or teacher is extraordinary. So that a teacher who can stand students who suffer from encephalitis means is a very extraordinary teacher.

From the data, there are many qualifications of great teacher. They can be an idealistic, upstanding, competent, talented, brilliant, educated, precious, sensible, skillful, and encouraging person. The data shows that almost of great teacher have mental characteristic of people. Almost of the reviewers drop the comment to *The Miracle Worker* movie that concept teacher is universal. It means that there is no difference of great teacher around the world. American teachers, China's teacher, and others may be same. Great teacher is always reputed as same as in other countries. Great teacher have good qualities of character of a person. So, it means that person who does not work as teacher also can be teacher to whomever they can give and share the knowledge and the experiences.

The researcher has analyzed 90 reviewers from IMDb, but not all the data belongs to great teacher. There are only 14 data that belong to great teacher. There are 3 kinds characteristic of great teacher, they are moral, social and mental. Part of moral characteristic is idealistic and upstanding. Part of social is encouraging. While part of mental is competent, talented, brilliant, educated, precious, sensible and skillful. There are 11 data belong to mental characteristics. There are 2 data belong to moral characteristic. While social characteristic only 1 data.

From 14 data of great teacher, it can be figured out into 8 illustrations. First, teacher should show professionalism. Second, teacher should teach the result of action. In this movie, Anne has a passion to handle Helen. Third,

teacher should give example to the students. Fourth, teacher should give great support to their students. Fifth, teacher should give attention more to students. Sixth, teacher should spread the positivity to students in order to student can motivate themselves. Seventh, teacher should share the knowledge to students, not only the material, but also the knowledge of life. And the last is teacher should have passion.

Actually the reason of reviewers addressing a great teacher is because of many cases of encephalitis suffered many peoples. There were 640 cases of encephalitis in America from 1964 till 2009 according to Indonesian Medical Laboratory. Then according to Illinois Department of Public Health, there is always an increase in the number of encephalitis sufferers each year which was recorded from 1932 to 1968. The most cases were in Madison, Morgan, and St. Clair countries. There were 1,114 cases and 224 deaths which were reported from across the Mississippi River, the city and country of St. Louis. The numbers of cases make reviewers take issue of a great teacher in *The Miracle Worker* because they see the facts related to encephalitis.

This research supports Beach's theory (1993) related to reader's response analysis. Reader response strategies can be categorized into four types; they are textual theory of response, experiential theory of response, psychological theory of response and socio cultural theory of response. Reader's response of *The Miracle Worker* movie belongs to textual theory of response. Audiences construct their own understanding while watching the movie. So, they build their own understanding to describe what is in the movie says. By the experience while reading, the reviewers found some categories of great teacher. There are three kinds of great teacher qualities. They are mental, social and moral. Each of the quality also has part itself. Most of the qualities of great teacher belong to mental characteristic.

4. CONCLUSION

Depend on the analysis and discussion on the previous chapter, there are some conclusions;

Firstly, the researcher has analyzed 90 reviewers from IMDb, but not all the data belongs to great teacher. There are only 14 data that belong to great teacher. There are 3 kinds characteristic of great teacher, they are moral, social and mental. Part of moral characteristic is idealistic and upstanding. Part of social is encouraging. While part of mental is competent, talented, brilliant, educated, precious, sensible and skillful. There are 11 data belong to mental characteristics. There are 2 data belong to moral characteristic. While social characteristic only 1 data.

Secondly, from 14 data of great teacher, it can be interpreted into 8 illustrations. First, teacher should show professionalism. So, teacher should always keep professionalism in every meeting with students. Second, teacher should teach the result of action. In this movie, Anne has a passion to handle Helen. There is scene that shows Helen rough to Anne and Anne did what Helen did to Anne. Third, teacher should give example to the students. All people that can give example to others may be called as teacher. In the movie, Anne always gives Helen example to spell the words patiently. Fourth, teacher should give great support to their students. Fifth, teacher should give attention more to students, especially handicapped students. Sixth, teacher should spread the positivity to students in order to student can motivate themselves. Seventh, teacher should share the knowledge to students, not only the material, but also the knowledge of life. And the last is teacher should have passion.

Thirdly, the reason of reviewers addressing a great teacher is because of many cases of encephalitis suffered many peoples. There were 640 cases of encephalitis in America from 1964 till 2009 according to Indonesian Medical Laboratory. Then according to Illinois Department of Public Health, there is always an increase in the number of encephalitis sufferers each year which was recorded from 1932 to 1968. The first encephalitis cases were in eastern Illinois, in Paris, the Edgar Country seat in 1932. There were 185 cases in the following year, 1933. There were 59 deaths cases that most occurred in Madison, Morgan, and St. Clair countries. So, there were 1,114 cases and 224 deaths that were reported from across the Mississippi River, the city and country and country of St.

Louis. It was during this 1933 outbreak that the virus was first isolated, identified and named. Other, smaller outbreaks of St. Louis encephalitis have occurred in Illinois in 1955, 1964 and 1968. The numbers of cases make reviewers take issue of a great teacher in *The Miracle Worker* because they see the facts related to encephalitis.

This research supports Beach's theory (1993) related to reader's response analysis. Reader response strategies can be categorized into four types; they are textual theory of response, experiential theory of response, psychological theory of response and socio cultural theory of response. Reader's response of *The Miracle Worker* movie belongs to textual theory of response. Audiences construct their own understanding while watching the movie.

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